

878

Sicily was lost to Arabs

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1912 Dates J-BK

Synapse was captured by  
the Saracens.

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1912 Dates J-BK

England

Wessex was ravaged by  
Danes.

They were defeated at ETHANDUN  
Treaty of Wedmore: between  
AELFRED & GUTHORM.

Danes abandoned Wessex but  
received East Anglia and a part  
of MERCA.

London was retained by AELFRED

The greater part of England  
is held by the Danes —  
called "Danelagh."

Alfred the Great defeated the  
Danes.

Treaty of CHIPPENHAM,  
The Danes retain eastern and  
northern England.

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Alfred defeated Danes at Ethandune.  
Danelaw established by Treaty of  
Wedmore.

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Saracens take Syracuse, completing  
the conquest of Sicily.

## Battle of Edington

The extensive Danish, or Viking settlement of England began in 865, when the greatest ~~lost~~ that any European ruler had had to face for several centuries ravaged England. The Danes settled in Northumbria, East Anglia and eastern Mercia. As a result, they lost their great advantage of mobility, and, being outnumbered by the English were defeated by the WEST SAXON forces of ALFRED



the treat at the Battle of Edington in 878, so  
preserving Wessex for the English. A  
treaty divided England into 2 parts; what  
became known as the DANELAW (because Danish  
law prevailed there) ran east of the Ancient Roman  
road, called WATLING STREET, from Deorham through  
the East Midlands to London; the English retained  
control of west & south. Alfred's successors  
reconquered most of the Danelaw, but  
renewed Danish attacks in the 10th century  
forced King Ethelred to levy a tax, called  
the Dane geld, to pay off the enemy in  
tribute.

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Danelaw included  
York & to the north  
Lincoln; Nottingham & Derby & east  
Leicester, Stamford  
and S.E. almost to Kent.

The Danes were partially subdued by Alfred the Great, but retained possession of East Anglia, Essex, Northumbria and northeastern part of Mercia.

(849-901) ALFRED THE GREAT

King of Wessex (871-901). He was the son of ETHELWULF, King of the West Saxons. The 2 great features of his reign are: the incursions of the Danes and the great attention paid to education through the king's patronage. After several battles with the Danes, he quieted them (probably with money). In 878 there was a great invasion. Alfred

established himself at ATHELNEY, and a few weeks later fought and won the battle of ETHANDUN. The Danish King GUTHRUM was baptized and the peace of WEADMORE followed. For the next 15 yrs. there was comparative peace. In 893 the Danes, who had been driven out of Germany by ARNULF, made another descent on England, which lasted 4 more yrs. before the Danes were driven out.